

Southwest Region/Iron County Quality Improvement Committee			
Meeting Dates:	October 21, 2008 November 18, 2008 No meeting December 2008	Review and Action Plan	Follow-up
Dash Board Items:	Action Plan Objective: Parental Drug Abuse	O: Discussion regarding the continued belief that Drug Endangered Child would be of benefit to DCFS as its own child abuse allegation.	O: Assigned committee members attended the National DEC conference. Destry reported on one of the classes he attended and suggested that the committee order the book "Helping People Addicted to Meth" to review with the intent to implement what is learned.  N: The "Helping People who are Addicted to Meth" books have been ordered.
	Action Plan Objective: Workload Reduction / Worker Retention and Recognition		O: Limelight website has been reviewed but because of budget issues some of what was learned cannot be utilized. Other ways of recognition were discussed.  N: Reviewed email from Lori regarding how the Division Director could at some point support the use of Admin Leave as a way to recognize good work despite the budget circumstance.
	Action Plan Objective: Resource Family Support	O: Committee member recommended that DCFS have Susan Goodman do a training for caseworkers to support foster parents and reduce trauma to children entering care. Doug will invite Susan Goodman to one of his team meetings.  O: Discussion regarding congregate care and rumors about eliminating shelter care. Destry will clarify some of these issues for the committee.	N: Destry reported that there is a plan to reduce DCFS's reliance on congregate care and to eventually move away from shelter care also. However, this will take place over time and as resources become available.
Public Relations:	Action Plan Objective: Public Perception	O: Our local DCFS staff will participate in an upcoming event at the Paiute SS building regarding  O: It is the committee's understanding that everything that is necessary for a story about adoption to run in the Daily News during November.	N: Still have not seen the story on adoption in the Daily News but we will continue to watch for it.

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<b>Studies:</b>		O: John S explained to the committee some of the things Volunteers of America have done in other communities and will bring back more info regarding their services.	
<b>CPS Issues:</b>		O: CPS has been doing more SW during investigations which may be why less in-home is needed?  O: We need numbers for the Forensic Interview training coming up in November.	N: 18 people have signed up for the FIT training. There were 3 officers from Garfield and 2 from Kane County, however the training has been canceled and will be rescheduled.
<b>QCR Participation:</b>		N: Annie and Amber will participate in the QCR as shadow reviewers this year.	
<b>Other Business:</b>		N: The committee then reviewed the David C. Sustainability Report as it pertains to the QIC's we discussed what we saw in the report that was reflective of our local efforts and identified some areas where we could improve the functioning of our QIC.  N: Shandra, Destry, and Amber will be attending this year's State QIC Summit.	
<b>DATA Review</b>		O: Committee reviewed SW Region Quarterly Report. Points of interest and discussion were number of in-home cases opened following a supported finding. Length of time to adoption for children in care. Substance abuse issues.	